Message Text

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NODIS

CHEROKEE EYES ONLY FOR DR. BRZEZINSKI

FOLLOWING IS REPEAT PEKING 2138, SENT SECSTATE 21 SEPT:

QUOTE S E C R E T PEKING 2138

NODIS/CHEROKEE

E.O. 11652: XGDS TAGS: CH US

SUBJ: THE SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH HUANG HUA IN NEW YORK

REF: PEKING 2122

1. TO CLEAR THE AIR IN YOUR MEETING WITH HUANG HUA IN NEW YORK, I THINK YOU SHOULD OPEN DISCUSSIONS BY REGRETTING THAT THE CHINESE SEEM TO HAVE CHANGED THEIR MINDS ON HOW YOUR VISIT WENT. YOU WERE SURPRISED TO HEAR THAT VICE PREMIER TENG, WHO HAD SAID WHILE YOU WERE HERE THAT YOUR TALKS WERE "CORDIAL AND USEFUL," SUBSEQUENTLY GAVE THE TALKS A DIFFERENT AND MORE NEGATIVE CHARACTERIZATION.

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- 2. FOREIGN MINISTER HUANG, WHO HAS IN THE PAST ALWAYS INSISTED ON THE LAST WORD IN SUCH EXCHANGES NO MATTER WHAT THE PRICE, WILL PROBABLY ANSWER REPEATING THE LINE WE HAVE HEARD FROM SEVERAL CHINESE LEADERS IN THE LAST TWO WEEKS (REFTEL).
- 3. RATHER THAN REPLY IN KIND I THINK YOU MIGHT THEN

POINT OUT THAT SOME OF THE DIFFICULTIES TO WHICH
THE CHINESE OBJECT MIGHT BE DUE TO THE PRESSURE CAUSED
BY THE INEVITABLE PUBLIC EXPECTATION AND MEDIA
ATTENTION WHICH VISITS SUCH AS YOURS CREATE.
ALTHOUGH IT IS USEFUL FOR THE WORLD TO KNOW WHAT WE HAVE
IN COMMON, IT CAN ONLY DELAY NORMALIZATION TO HAVE
MISUNDERSTANDINGS ABOUT OUR BILATERAL DIFFERENCES
WIDELY ADVERTISED. TO REDUCE THAT SORT OF PRESSURE
YOU COULD SUGGEST THAT FURTHER TALKS ON BILATERAL
MATTERS BE HELD AT THE USLO-MFA LEVEL TO FOLLOW
UP ON YOUR EXPLORATORY PROPOSALS OF LAST MONTH
TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE CHINESE REACTION TO THOSE
PROPOSALS AND OUR SUBSEQUENT REVIEW. TIMING COULD
BE LEFT VAGUE BUT I WOULD HOPE WE COULD OPEN SUCH
DISCUSSIONS BY THIS WINTER.

- 4. WE ARE NOT GOING TO PRODUCE ANY DRAMATIC CHANGES IN CHINESE POSITIONS WITH THIS MOVE. I FEEL, THOUGH, THAT WE WOULD BE MUCH BETTER OFF IF WE PURSUE THE GOAL OF NORMALIZATION AT THIS LEVEL, PARTICULARLY IF WE DECIDE TO ACCEPT THE "JAPANESE FORMULA" AND OPEN TALKS ON THE MODALITIES SURROUNDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS.
- 5. NEEDLESS TO SAY I THINK WE SHOULD ACCEPT THE "JAPANESE FORMULA" OF NON-OFFICIAL REPRESENTATION SECRET

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IN TAIPEI. THE LABEL COVERS ENOUGH TO MEET OUR REAL NEEDS ON TAIWAN JUST AS IT HAS SERVED FOR MANY OTHER GOVERNMENTS WHO MAINTAIN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH PEKING AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL "CIVIL NEEDS" IN TAIPEI.

6. WE ARE NOW AT A POINT WHERE IT LOOKS CERTAIN THAT THE CHINESE ARE NOT GOING TO ALTER THEIR PUBLIC LINE ON TAIWAN TO MAKE LIFE EASIER FOR US. TENG'S STATE-MENT TO THE ASSOCIATED PRESS GROUP ("IF THE US DOES NOT INTERFERE WE CAN NOT RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY OF A PEACEFUL SOLUTION.) WAS AS GOOD AS WE ARE GOING TO GET. I THINK WE SHOULD AVOID EITHER CHALLENGING OR PUBLICLY INTERPRETING THAT STATEMENT AT THIS TIME. WHILE WE LET THAT STAND WE SHOULD PROCEED TO DEFINE HOW THE "JAPANESE FORMULA" MUST BE STRETCHED TO MEET OUR NEEDS. THIS WOULD BE NOT FOR IMMEDIATE NEGOITATING PURPOSES -- I DON'T THINK WE SHOULD DISCUSS WITH THE PRC THE DETAILS OF OUR FUTURE TAIWAN CONNECTION -- BUT WOULD ALLOW US TO SEE HOW WE SHOULD PROCEED AT HOME. FOR ONCE WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO MANIPULATE CHINESE DEFINITIONS OF WHAT IS FORM AND WHAT IS SUBSTANCE TO OUR ADVANTAGE.

7. I HOPE WE WILL HAVE A CHANCE TO DISCUSS THIS IN MORE DETAIL NEXT WEEK WHEN I RETURN TO WASHINGTON. WOODCOCK UNQUOTE. VANCE

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